## 514 Rec CT/PTO 1 7 MAR 2000

PATENT 1907-190P

## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

N. ITO et al.

Int'l. Appl. No.:

PCT/JP98/03963

Appl. No.:

NEW

Group:

Filed:

March 17, 2000

Examiner:

For:

IMAGE ENCODER AND IMAGE DECODER

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

March 17, 2000

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

## AMENDMENTS

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Before line 1, insert --This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP98/03963 which has an International filing date of September 3, 1998, which designated the United States of America.--

doscal atosoco